

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5441

59th Legislature
2005 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 18, 2005
YEAS 32 NAYS 14

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 7, 2005
YEAS 76 NAYS 20

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Thomas Hoemann, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5441** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5441

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2005 Regular Session

State of Washington **59th Legislature** **2005 Regular Session**

By Senate Committee on Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Weinstein, McAuliffe, Prentice, Kohl-Welles, Eide, Berkey, Poulsen, Keiser, Brown, Fraser, Shin, Haugen, Schmidt, Kline, Rockefeller, Spanel and Rasmussen; by request of Governor Gregoire)

READ FIRST TIME 02/28/05.

1 AN ACT Relating to studying early learning, K-12, and higher
2 education; creating new sections; and providing an expiration date.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

5 (1) The early years mark the most extraordinary period of growth
6 for young children. The state's role in providing access to early
7 learning opportunities has never been consistently defined;

8 (2) More than a quarter of a century has passed since the current
9 school finance system was first created, and the challenges facing our
10 schools and students have grown and changed dramatically during that
11 time. Policies have been established creating new expectations and
12 goals for students under education reform;

13 (3) Demographic pressures and work force needs will continue to
14 increase demand for access to postsecondary education and training.
15 Public two-year and four-year institutions of higher education are also
16 important avenues for programs such as adult basic education and
17 English as a second language that are the foundation for employment and
18 further education for an increasing number of people. Washington ranks
19 thirty-third in the nation in the number of bachelor's degrees earned

1 per one thousand residents ages twenty through twenty-nine years, and
2 will graduate the largest high school class in its history in 2008.
3 Washington citizens deserve access to baccalaureate degree
4 opportunities. Washington's public universities and colleges engage in
5 research that contributes to the economic and social well-being of the
6 state. Students have paid an increasing cost of their education with
7 tuition growing faster than personal income or inflation; and

8 (4) Through a comprehensive study, the legislature will have solid
9 information to determine how best to use its resources to create a
10 strong education system that will provide an educated citizenry and a
11 thriving economy in this state.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The comprehensive education study
13 steering committee is created.

14 (2) Members of the steering committee shall include: The governor
15 who shall chair the steering committee; the director of the office of
16 financial management; two members from the house of representatives
17 with one appointed by each major caucus; two members from the senate
18 with one appointed by each major caucus; four citizens appointed by the
19 governor; and the chairs of each of the three advisory committees
20 created under subsection (3) of this section. The chair of the
21 advisory committee on K-12 shall be the superintendent of public
22 instruction. The chair of the advisory committee on early learning
23 shall be the nongovernmental cochair of the Washington early learning
24 council, created in Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No. 1152.
25 The chair of the advisory committee on higher education shall be
26 selected by the governor from a list of three or more names submitted
27 by the state board for community and technical colleges, the higher
28 education coordinating board, and the council of presidents.

29 (3) The steering committee shall appoint the members of the
30 advisory committee on K-12 and the advisory committee on higher
31 education. In addition, the two major caucuses in the senate and the
32 two major caucuses in the house of representatives shall each appoint
33 one member to serve on the K-12 advisory committee and one member to
34 serve on the higher education advisory committee. The Washington early
35 learning council, created in Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill No.
36 1152, shall serve as the advisory committee on early learning.

1 (4) The steering committee shall receive staff and logistical
2 support from the office of financial management.

3 (5) Nonlegislative members of the steering committee shall be
4 reimbursed for travel expenses under RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The steering committee:

6 (a) Shall direct and coordinate the studies created in this
7 section. In conducting the studies, consideration shall be given to
8 recently completed, related finance studies, with particular attention
9 to those initiated by or completed at the request of the legislature;

10 (b) May enter into contracts as needed to support the work of the
11 study;

12 (c) Shall develop recommendations based on the work of the studies
13 in this section; and

14 (d) Shall develop recommendations about how the state can best
15 provide stable funding for student learning for young children,
16 students in the public schools, and students in the public colleges and
17 universities.

18 (2) A comprehensive K-12 finance study shall include, but not be
19 limited to:

20 (a) The constitutional and legal requirements underlying the
21 current finance system and how those requirements are affected by the
22 goal under education reform to provide all students with the
23 opportunity to achieve the state standards;

24 (b) The strengths and weaknesses of the current state and local
25 finance formulas and how those formulas are used by local school
26 districts to meet state requirements and student learning goals;

27 (c) Information regarding remediation particularly in the subject
28 areas of mathematics, science, and language arts;

29 (d) Potential changes to the current finance system including the
30 methods of allocating funds, levels of funding, and how student
31 achievement is affected;

32 (e) Reviewing the funding systems in at least five other states;

33 (f) Specific issues facing schools: Assuring program
34 accountability; improving effectiveness in state-level governance;
35 identifying efficiencies in district spending practices; providing
36 programs that assist students in meeting standards; helping students

1 stay in school; impacts of the certification requirements for teachers;
2 improving the effectiveness of English language learner instruction;
3 and appropriate preparation requirements for paraeducators;

4 (g) Local and regional funding challenges faced by individual
5 school districts throughout the state; and

6 (h) Potential changes to the current salary system that would be
7 more closely related to professional development and enhancement of
8 student performance.

9 (3) A comprehensive study of early learning shall include, but not
10 be limited to:

11 (a) Defining the populations being served, those that could be
12 served, and program access;

13 (b) Determining the state's role in supporting quality early
14 learning opportunities;

15 (c) Determining the state's role in training persons providing
16 services; and

17 (d) Providing for smooth transitions to K-12 programs.

18 (4) A comprehensive study of higher education shall include, but
19 not be limited to:

20 (a) Options for creating a new funding system;

21 (b) The number and distribution of enrollments at two and four-year
22 institutions of higher education needed to meet demographic and work
23 force training needs;

24 (c) Methods for determining the cost of instruction in various
25 program areas;

26 (d) Methods for developing common articulation of lower division
27 work;

28 (e) The appropriate share of the cost of instruction that should be
29 funded through tuition, general fund-state subsidies, and financial
30 aid;

31 (f) Providing for smooth transitions from high school to college,
32 including dual credit options and adequate preparation for
33 college-level coursework;

34 (g) Identifying strategies and associated costs to increase
35 opportunity for access to baccalaureate degrees at public institutions
36 of higher education;

37 (h) Identifying incentives to optimize research conducted by public

1 universities and colleges that has the potential to stimulate the
2 economy and address economic and social issues relevant to Washington
3 citizens;

4 (i) Options for using existing capacity in independent colleges and
5 universities;

6 (j) A review of higher education governance as it relates to fiscal
7 policy for higher education; and

8 (k) Options for coordinating capital and operating appropriations.

9 (5) The steering committee shall provide interim reports to the
10 appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the senate and the house of
11 representatives by November 15, 2005, and June 16, 2006. These interim
12 reports shall document ongoing work to-date, initial findings, and next
13 steps. The November 15, 2005, interim report may recommend possible
14 action items for consideration in the 2006 legislative session.

15 (6) The final report and recommendations of the steering committee
16 shall be submitted to the legislature by November 15, 2006.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act expires July 1, 2007.

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